

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S. 75-72

MEMORANDUM

To SENATE

From SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIPS,
AWARDS AND BURSARIES

Subject REPORT FROM SENATE COMMITTEE ON
SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES

Date APRIL 11, 1975

MOTION: "That the President consult with the Senate Committee on Scholarships, Awards, and Bursaries one year following acceptance of this report by Senate with respect to the effectiveness of the change in administrative responsibility for the Financial Aid Office."

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To..... H. M. EVANS

SECRETARY OF SENATE

Subject..... REPORT FROM SENATE COMMITTEE ON
SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES

From..... J. D'AURIA, CHAIRMAN
SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIPS,
AWARDS AND BURSARIES

Date..... APRIL 11, 1975

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Scholarships, Awards, and Bursaries, I am submitting the attached report in accordance with the motion passed at the March, 1975, meeting of Senate. In addition, S.C.S.A.B. would like the following motion presented to Senate:

MOTION:

"That the President consult with the Senate Committee on Scholarships, Awards, and Bursaries one year following acceptance of this report by Senate with respect to the effectiveness of this change in administrative responsibility for the Financial Aid Office."

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MEMORANDUM

To.....SENATE.....

From.....J. D'AURIA, CHAIRMAN.....
SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIPS,
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Subject...REPORT FROM SENATE COMMITTEE ON.....
SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES.....

Date.....APRIL 11, 1975.....

The following motion was passed at the March meeting of Senate,
namely:

"That the Senate Committee on Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries be instructed to consult with the President on the change in administrative responsibility for the Financial Aid Office and report back to Senate."

In accordance with this charge, the Senate Committee (SCSAB) met with the President on March 19, 1975, and discussed the rationale and ramifications of the change in administrative responsibility. The President presented the reasons which led to her decision and these included:

- a) An attempt to have more efficient reporting procedure for the Financial Aid Office. In the new administrative arrangement the Financial Aid Officer (FAO) will report directly to the Vice-President University Services.
- b) In combining the Financial Aid Office with the Fund Raising Office under the same administrative person, the situation here should lead to better communications between these two related areas and such an arrangement is consistent with similar set-ups on other Canadian universities.
- c) A great deal of the funds which the Financial Aid Office is responsible for are essentially of a non-academic nature (e.g. Canada Student Loans).
- d) An additional, although minor consideration was to reduce the perhaps overload situation with respect to areas of responsibility of the Vice-President Academic.

In the course of subsequent discussion with SCSAB, the President presented the following comments with respect to the operation of SCSAB and the transfer.

- a) The operation and responsibility of the SCSAB would not be interfered with in any manner nor changed from its present operation.

- b) The new administrative arrangements would be reviewed in a year and the comments of SCSAB would be solicited.
- c) Budgets for Student Aid are to be decided upon by the President in consultation with the three Vice-Presidents.

Members of the committee expressed concern in the following areas with respect to the change, namely:

- a) The manner of implementing this administrative change was performed with little input from SCSAB, although the Chairman was consulted in confidence one week before the formal decision was taken.
- b) Difficulties could arise since the Financial Aid Officer would now be administratively responsible to an individual who is not a member of Senate, and yet the Financial Aid Officer plays an important role in the proper functioning of a Senate committee.
- c) The wisdom of such a change had been seriously questioned by previous chairmen of SCSAB.
- d) While a large portion of the monies handled by Financial Aid may be classified as non-academic (e.g. student loans) that office is also intimately concerned with the academic scholarship program administered by the SCSAB; the advisability of whether the office distributing scholarships should be under the administrative aegis of the Vice-President University Services is to be questioned.

A second meeting of SCSAB was held on April 9, 1975, to discuss the nature of the report to Senate. The Chairman was authorized to prepare a report on behalf of SCSAB and the following motion was approved for the consideration of Senate:

MOTION:

"Be it moved by Senate that the President consult with the Senate Committee on Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries one year following acceptance of this report by Senate with respect to the effectiveness of this change in administrative responsibility for the Financial Aid Office."

General Comments (of Chairman)

Aside from the motion proposed by SCSAB no additional formal action is recommended at this time with respect to the administrative change. The consensus opinions of the committee members are summarized below.

In general the Committee did not feel that the potential problems associated with this change were of sufficient significance at this time to merit actions against the transfer. Rather, certain distinct benefits as discussed by the President could be realized from the new arrangement. Further, the operation of the Committee should not be interfered with in any manner. The Committee was quite concerned with the manner in which this change was implemented; in particular with the lack of discussion with SCSAB.

Regardless, the Committee was assured that the situation will be reviewed in one year and SCSAB will be allowed to provide its comments in a proper fashion.

John M. D'Auria
Chairman
Senate Committee on Scholarships,
Awards and Bursaries